
**METHOD AND APPARATUS TO BACKUP, UPDATE
AND SHARE DATA AMONG IMPLANTABLE
CARDIAC STIMULATION DEVICE PROGRAMMERS**

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Abstract of the Disclosure

10 A system is provided for backing up and synchronizing data stored
within a set of programmers used for programming implantable cardiac
stimulation devices such as pacemakers or implantable cardioverter
defibrillators (ICDs). The data from the programmers that is backed up
and synchronized includes programmer software, set up and
configuration data, programming parameters, patient personal data,
15 implantable device diagnostic data, and patient diagnostic data received
from implanted devices. The implanted devices are classified into one or
more groups and the programmer backup system merges and
synchronizes data received from all programmers within a particular
group. In other words, the backup system operates to ensure that each
20 programmer within a particular group shares the same set up and
configuration data, programmer software, patient contact data, and
device diagnostic information. Programmers within different groups may
have different data stored therein, particularly different set up and
configuration data, patient data and the like. The merging and
25 synchronization of data may depend upon the particular type of data. For
example, all devices connected to the backup system may be
synchronized to have the same programmer software, whereas only
programmers within a particular group may be synchronized to have the
same set up and configuration data, patient data, and the like.